

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER IMPERIAL MISSOURI

Interesting Happenings Which Have Taken Place In the Greatest State in the Union

## The Product of the Scissors, the Pen and a Very Little Actual Labor

Down in Newton county fruit growers are realizing five hundred dollars per acre for their strawberry crop.

"The meters do not measure the amount of water we use," comforts the Fayette Advertiser. "Merely the amount we have to pay for."

The Sikeston Standard announces that Zero Peck will not be able to make a crop this year on account of a few horse trades he made early in the spring.

One of the few surviving Mexican war veterans of Southern Missouri is James Rankin Compton of Mountain View. He is hale and hearty at 96 years.

The Butler Democrat reports that last week a Rich Hill dealer paid out \$3,050.25 for wool and adds that Bates county is not considered a wool county at that.

"Shades of Nick Carter!" breathes the Springfield Leader. "Ira C. Emery, who has been city marshal of Humansville for twelve years, is 81 years old."

Mathew Harmer, aged eighty-two, died last week at his home near Ed-

gerton, having lived on the same farm there for sixty-one years. He is survived by six children.

"Any returned soldier," says the Joplin Globe, "who feels lonesome about not being ordered around any more should use the month of June for what it is famous."

The Springfield Leader notes that Professor Garner wants to teach apes the farming business and declares that no doubt farmers think that apes are already in the professor business.

J. E. Stevenson brought to town Saturday a stem of blue grass that measured six feet and four inches. Can any one beat it? Blue grass is extra good this season, it is said.—Parnell Sentinel.

A grain of corn lodging in the windpipe of Paul Dorias, Jr., five years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dorias of Dardenne, St. Louis county, caused his death at the Jewish hospital.

"Rodney Jenkins of Carthage has the latest and most unique explanation for a black eye and skinned face," states the Carthage Press. "He says he was milking his cow Wednesday evening when a passing automobile frightened her and she knocked him over and stepped in his eye."

"While on a fishing trip recently Rufus Wynn found a coyote cub. He chased the little animal into a hollow log and twisted it out with a pole, capturing it. He intends to make a pet of it."—Lowry City Independent.

Noah Hayes sold a hog a few days ago, and out of the money he received for the hog, paid for an \$82 set of harness and left him \$36 cash—the hog bringing \$118.—Harris Herald.

"If some day you were to hear a sound like thunder and in response to your amazed inquiry were informed 'Oh, that was only prices falling,' wouldn't you be delighted?" queries the Breckenridge Bulletin, superfluously.

"The riotous disturbances on the streets just now are not the Bolshevists trying to overthrow the government," notes the Jefferson City Democrat-Tribune, "but merely the June wedding party giving the couple a sendoff."

"One of the biggest checks ever paid to a farmer in the vicinity of Webb City for his wheat was recently given H. M. Vaughn by a Webb City mill," says the Springfield Leader. "It was for \$11,400 and was the output of 160 acres grown last year. He is preparing to harvest 340 acres this year."

"Harry Thale of Maywood is said to have more colonies of bees than any keeper in the state," reports Mosby's Message. "He recently imported one hundred additional colonies from Alabama and five hundred colonies from Texas."

The Humansville Star-Leader comes to bat with the cheering news that the apple trees in some orchards near Humansville are so heavily laden that some of the green fruit will have to be picked to keep the limbs from breaking.

According to the Howell County Gazette, there is a large wooden cross with a gold star on it standing in the court house yard and every day women place wreaths and flowers on it in memory of the Howell county boys who made the supreme sacrifice for their country.

This strawberry crop of Barry county this year will bring the growers a total of \$800,000 which will mean that the yield per acre will be from \$500 to \$200, which is the largest amount ever secured from an acre of berries in the world's largest strawberry producing county.

"Taney county land owners when in doubt might turn to strawberries," declares the Springfield Leader. "Alex. John Bowman, who lives south of Branson, sold 55 gallons of strawberries off one-tenth of an acre for \$22.50, which equals \$225 an acre."

Dr. C. P. Bovine of Moberly gave the following reasons as proof that women are angels. "First," he said, "they are always up in the air. The second proof is that they are always harping on something, and the third is that they never have an earthly thing to wear."

Missouri has a Catholic population of 478,692, according to the 1919 edition of the "Official Catholic Directory" which has just been published in New York. The publication gives Missouri as the ninth among twenty-eight states having a population of 100,000 or more.

"John King says he has something on his farm he never saw before," reports the Liberty Advance. "He had a field of oats last year and last fall volunteer oats began to grow and stayed green all winter. He now has a fine stand all headed out and will have a great crop without any effort at all on his part."

According to the Maryville Tribune, the two small sons of Jay Q. Meek, who live a few miles out of Maryville, are the proudest boys in the county. They have for a pet a tiny fawn which was caught by the dogs on the Meek farm recently. They brought it to town to give some of the townspeople their first look at a baby deer.

There are two hundred and fifty thousand words in the English language, and the Fayette Advertiser declares that most of them were used Sunday by a Fayette woman who discovered, after coming home from church, that her new hat was adorned with a tag on which was written "reduced to \$2.75."

And now Odessa has a buried-pot-of-money story. The Democrat relates J. P. Powell, who lives near the Lake place, outside of town, recently saw two men digging just over the fence in the orchard above him. The next morning an old fashioned iron kettle was found by a big hole. It was covered with rust and showed the marks inside of coins. The place where it had evidently been buried a

number of years had been grown over with grass and nobody knows when the money was buried or by whom.

Oscar Bricker, 36 years old, of Wabash, Ind., a civilian flyer, was burned to death at Hannibal Tuesday morning when his airplane fell out of control and crashed in a street, bursting into flames. Bricker's airplane was acting as herald for a convoy of motor trucks making a demonstration tour over Missouri and Illinois.

The West Plains Quill says that Capt. Millard Hamilton of West Plains, who is overseas with the aviation department of the A. E. F., has been a captain a whole year and did not know it. He has just received his captain's commission issued more than a year ago, which, on account of a mistake made in his name at Washington, has been twelve months in reaching him.

It was announced at the commencement exercises at William Jewell College last Wednesday that for the first time in ten years the college was closing without a deficit and with money in the treasury. Not only were all running expenses paid but an old deficit of \$21,000 has been wiped out in the last year in spite of hard times, scarcity of students and war conditions.

The newest sort of a new woman recently put in an appearance near Chillicothe, the Tribune asserts. She was a woman tramp and was a real tramp, too, even carrying her bundle over her shoulder on a stick and giving unmistakable evidences of having slept in a haystack. She declined to give her name, but said she was hunting for the railroad. She doubtless intended to catch a freight and ride the rods.

William E. Rosser, wire chief for the Bell Telephone Company of Fulton, while making repairs on a line, came in contact with a live wire belonging to the Fayette Electric Light Company and was so badly burned that he died in a hospital at Moberly, where he was taken. J. F. Hendricks, who rescued him from the wire, was badly shocked. Mr. Rosser was buried in Mexico.

"Last Saturday, Frank Weaver, one of Union Township's good farmers, took a ham to town and after selling it was able to purchase the following groceries with the money," notes the Green City Press: "One hundred pounds of sugar, \$19.75; corn, 25c; hominy, 25c; cream of wheat, 50c; fifteen pounds of salt fish, \$2.25; one hundred pounds of grit, \$1.25. Can you beat it?"

It would be interesting to find out whether J. F. Walling, who lives in the Mt. Zion neighborhood, near Seymour, carries a rabbit's foot, wears a sack of yaris, crosses his fingers or just what he does to insure good luck. The Seymour Citizen reports that he had just finished milking a cow one evening recently and had sat down to milk another when the first cow was hit by a bolt of lightning and killed.

According to the Fulton Telegraph, a trunk of a tree in which the prongs of a pitch fork are solidly imbedded is a freak of nature which Charles Dunlap recently discovered when he was burning brush. The main part of the fork is covered with wood, the four prongs protruding from three to five inches. It is imbedded near the fork of the tree and it is supposed that the pitchfork was hung there long ago and was gradually enveloped by the growing tree.

According to the Pleasant Hill Times, Gordon Bell of Pleasant Hill has some very interesting family heirlooms in the shape of a collection of old coins which he brought with him from England. Some date back as far as the Fifteenth Century. One coin, an English penny, is dated 1773 and has the head of George III on it. It weighs about two ounces, is an inch and a half in diameter and very roughly coined.

The Jefferson City Democrat-Tribune relates one of those things that are stranger than fiction, and give fiction a good excuse for being. It says that some sixteen years ago a number of citizens bought some lots in Appoplochia, Okla., which they were glad to forget as soon as possible because so many people said "I told you so." Last week they were notified that there was oil and gas underlying these lots, and an oil company was anxious to obtain permission to drill wells and willing to pay one-eighth of the proceeds as a royalty to the lot owners.

John Turner and Frank Johnson, two training school boys, were instantly killed at the rock quarry of the school last Friday afternoon when a mass of rock and dirt fell on them while they were digging in the side of an embankment. The accident occurred about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The two boys were excavating

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rock in the side of the quarry when an overhanging ledge started to give way. They made a run for the open but were pinned beneath the cave-in.

Mrs. Carrie Erickson-Hofland, convicted last week in the Shannon county circuit court at Eminence of the murder of Mrs. Pearl Welton near Mountain View, on January 17, will be taken to the state penitentiary at Jefferson City this week by Sheriff John T. Bay, of Shannon county, to begin serving the sentence of ten years imposed on her by a jury.

"Those who claim there is nothing new under the sun have another thing coming," notes the Butler Times. "In the Johnson County village of Denton the garage keeper has a piano in his waiting room where the wayfarer can play a few airs while the other kind is being supplied to his tires. Maybe the idea is that music will soothe the poor victim so that he will be able to stand the shock when he gets his bill for screwing up a nut somewhere on his car."

According to a Sarcoxie paper, modern surgery is doing wonders for Sergt. Salem Almgour of Sarcoxie, who was wounded while fighting with the 129th Machine Gun Battalion of the 26th Division in the Argonne. A shell fragment tore out one eye and a portion of his brow and cheek bone, but skin has been grafted from his arm on his face, a new eye has been put in which turns in unison with his good eye, an eyebrow has been made to grow, an eyelid sewn on and efforts are now being made to get new eyelashes to grow on it.

"Mexico people are puzzled over a new fly that has made its appearance here and are unable to give it a better name than nuisance," reports the Mexico Ledger. "It is shaped like a mosquito, having a mosquito proboscis, but it never uses its weapon. It is sluggish and clings desperately to anything it happens to light on. Its persistence is bothersome, but its life is short for that very reason. The fly first appeared about the middle of last week. They came in swarms, the air being literally filled with the insects at times."

According to the Brookfield Gazette, the only controversy now between veterans of the Civil War who wore the blue and gray is as to which shall show the most comradely feeling toward the other. And as an evidence that all the veterans of the '60s were warm friends and admirers of the young American soldiers in the last war, the Gazette points to a recent Memorial Day order of Capt. Louis Benke, commander of the Grand Army Post at Brunswick, which directs that a special mound be erected on the G. A. R. block to represent the graves of all the boys, children and grandchildren of all Civil War veterans now sleeping in France or other foreign lands.

Both being prevalent at this season of the year the Plattburg Leader has efficiently combined its fish and snake story as follows: "Sunday afternoon a group of town boys were swimming and boating below the Plattburg-Lathrop bridge when they noticed a snake swimming along almost wholly above the water, several feet from the bank. They pulled near to scare it, but the snake started to coil on the top of the water and then

one of the boys noticed the rattles on its tail and killed it. When they pulled it out of the water they found it had four rattles and a button. None of our old timers remember having heard of a rattler on the water this way."

"Gathering potato bugs by the bushel has been discovered as an interesting pastime for those patients in the Fulton State Hospital who are suffering from dementia and need to be taken out for exercise," says a Fulton dispatch in the Warrensburg Star-Journal. "They delight in the work and equipped with tin cans and sticks they go down the rows cleaning them up in great style. On one 33-acre patch of potatoes they got nine bushels of bugs in two days. The bugs this year are so large that Paris Green does not kill them and the only safe way to get rid of them is to gather them and burn them."

H. H. Dudley has a hall story worth repeating. He said that last week,

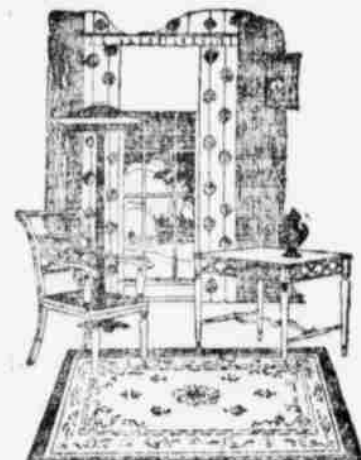
while driving with three other salesmen, between Prairie Hill and Moberly, they followed in the track of a hall storm, which was about one mile wide and twenty miles in length. The stones were hub-deep to a Ford car, and in fields they were five and eight inches deep, stripping the trees of their foliage, ruining wheat fields and gardens, and leaving much of the remains buried in the ground. The stones were not larger than a silver quarter, but ravines were piled to a depth of two and one-half feet.—Clarksville Banner-Standard.

CLOSE CALL AT SWIFT PLANT When an ammonia pipe burst in one of the chill rooms at the Swift plant Monday night, six men, H. Campbell, W. Tipton, O. Campbell, L. McPherson, C. Tischner, Oscar Christman, Uriah Howard and C. Walker, were overcome. A squad equipped with gas masks entered the place and rescued the unconscious men. Two of the number were near death. All will, however, recover.

isn't this a pretty little spot?

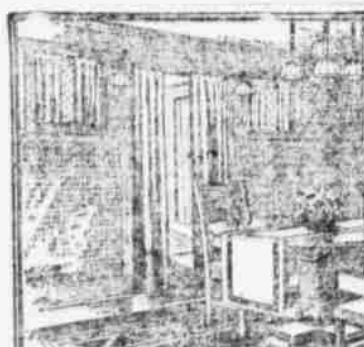
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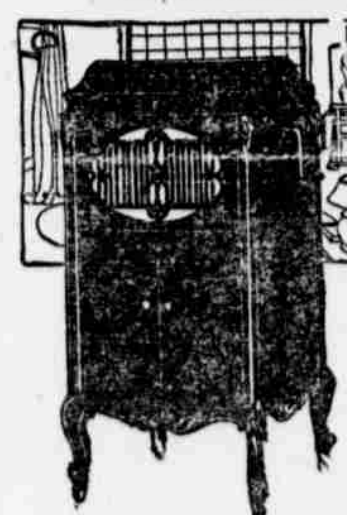


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